lobed at the top and attached basally to emerging hypocotyl. Further, the endosperm is found to be thin-layered dome-shaped covering over the cotyledons. As a contrast to this, the cotyledons of the atypical specimen are lobed, horn-shaped bodies developed in each of the two locules separated by a distinct wall. They are surrounded by thin endosperm tissue of their own and attached at the distal end to the emerging hypocotyls. Further, the emergent seedlings do not show any difference in size and shape at maturity in comparison with the typical pendent seedlings (Figs. 1-3). This clearly shows that the two independent ovules of the bilocular ovary have been fertilised independently, resulting in the double-seedling condition. This specimen is deposited in the Andaman and Nicobar Circle Herbarium (PBL), Botanical Survey of India, Port Blair.

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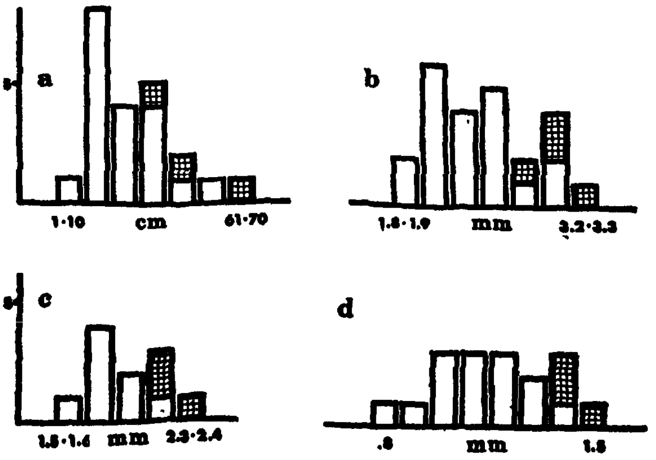
A NOTE ON *LINUM MYSORENCE*

This note on *Linum mysorence* began with an inquiry into some of the specific features of the species, needed for the preparation of a general treatment of section Linopsis to which it belongs.

Of the first collections examined some were from the Bombay area, others from Sri Lanka. The latter were consistently larger in most measurements and it seemed worthwhile to explore the species throughout its range to see if there might be two distinct entities. To this end material was borrowed from BM, CAL, K, NY and US, to the curators of which appreciation is expressed.

There is considerable variation within *Linum mysorence*. For example, it is usually described as having styles basally united, but many specimens have separate styles. Style union is a very stable feature in almost every other species of the genus, but in *L. mysorence* it is but one of the variable characteristics. When a broad sampling of Indian plants is measured, it reveals that although they tend to be smaller in stature and to have smaller leaves and floral parts than those of Sri Lanka, the measurements overlap in each instance



Figs. a-d : Comparison of collections of *Linum mysorence* from India and Sri Lanka (cross-hatched) in plant height. (a) Sepal length. (b) Fruit length. (c) Style length. (d) Number of specimens examined shown at the left.

(Fig. 1). The plants of Sri Lanka, of which only a few have been seen, can best be considered to be at or near the upper extreme with respect to sizes of all these parts, but neither they nor any of the Indian plants examined seem to warrant formal segregation. The variability of the species may indicate, however, that a more thorough biosystematic study of it throughout its range would be worthwhile and might well prove to be more informative than the examination of random herbarium specimens.

The author of *L. mysorence* is usually said to be Heyne, but Bentham (in Edward's Botanical Register 16: under plate 1326, as *L. mysorence* 1830) first described the species shortly after Wallich (A numerical list of plants in the East India Company's museum 1828) had taken up Heyne's unpublished name.

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ON THE IDENTITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF SOME PLANTS IN ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

While scrutinizing the specimens in the herbaria of Botanical Survey of India, Calcutta (CAL) and Port Blair (PBL), for a systematic enumeration of selected families, a few taxa were found wrongly identified or unidentified. On correct identification, these were found to have not been recorded for Andaman and Nicobar Islands in any of the earlier literature on the islands although known for their distribution in the mainland India and other adjoining regions of South East Asia. Their occurrences reported here from these islands are of phytogeographic significance.

APOCYNACEAE

1. **Beaumontia jerdoniana** Wight, Icon. t. 1314 - 1315. 1848; Hk. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 3: 661. 1882.

The only two collections of this species from the Little Andaman Island were misidentified as *Chonemorpha fragrans* (Moon) Alston. The possession of widely campanulate corolla limb, long and arcuate filaments and single ovary distinguish them to be *Beaumontia jerdoniana* and not *Chonemorpha fragrans*.

Although a climber worthy of introduction in gardens, there is no record of its introduction or its allied species, *B. grandiflora* Wall. in these islands. This species is found in Peninsular India and the present collections in rare and wild condition from the Little Andaman show disjunct distribution. Further, the occurrence in littoral forests and mangroves is peculiar to the known habitats of the species.

Specimens examined: L. ANDAMANS: Hut Bay, *N. Bhargava* 3336 (PBL); *ibid.* 5127 (PBL).

2. **Ichnocarpus volubilis** (Lour.) Merr. in Philip. Jour. Sci. 21: 506. 1922. *Gardenia volubilis* Lour. Fl. Cochinch. 506. 1790. *Ichnocarpus ovatifolius* A. DC. Prodr. 8: 435. 1844; Hk. f. Fl. Brit. Ind. 3: 670. 1882.

Climbing shrubs with small white flowers in panicles and lanceolate-falcate, half inflexed corolla lobes.

This species is widely distributed from India to the Philippines, through Bangla Desh, Malaysia and Celebes. The record, on the basis of determination from several